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H – 682

International Court of Justice

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Not e.

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Ne pas publier avant présent tion devant le tribunal en audience publique et seuler s la partie réellement versée au dossier.

Nicht zu veroeffentlichen arlegung vor dem Gericht (Tribunal) in oeffentlicher tzung und dann nur jenen Teil, welcher tatsaechlich Beweisfuehrung uebermittelt wurde.

Не публиковать до того, как представлено на публичном заседании Трибунала и только ту часть, которая представлена в качестве доказательства.

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I certify that none of the documents included herein have been denied by the Tribunal and that this document book has been examined with the prosecution in accordance with the ruling of the Tribunal dated 4 April 1946.

Je certifie qu'aucun des documents ci-inclus n'a été contesté par le Tribunal, et que ce livre de documents a été examiné par le Ministère Public suivant les règles du Tribunal, en date du 4 Avril 1946.

Ich bestaetige, dass keine der hierin enthaltenen Dokumente vom Gerichtshof abgelehnt wurden und dass dieses Dokumentenbuch gemeinsam mit der Anklagevertretung durchgesehen wurde, in Uebereinstimmung mit der Entscheidung des Gerichtshofes vom 4. April 1946.

Signature of Counsel
Signature de l'Avocat
Unterschrift des Verteidigers.

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of

Document Book IV

C. Freiherr von Neurath.

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Filed July 2, 1946

(Page 285 of Orig.)

NEURATH No. 107

Extract from the speech by representative Montigney on the French Chamber re the Russian Pact on 13. 2. 36.

(quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumen ten" (world History of our Frue in documents.) 1935/36; 3rd volume, Pages 318/319.).

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Neurath No. 107

Extract from the speech of Representative Montigny on the French Chamber re the Russian Pack on 13. 2. 36.

Gentlemen, I take the liberty of advocating today still the opinion once expressed by a man with whose sentiments I was familiar; for his thoughts followed these of Faures; he recalled the apprehensions the laber had frequently expressed regarding the impression of encirclement which a large nation could gain in the year 1914.- although we assumed it that we were only acting in our own defence - when if preceived a proletarian party, which was directed from abroad, replacing Touries policy by that of Delcassé.

I do not say - for I do not wish to cause the country confusion. - "The arguing of this treaty means War!" But I do say - for I am convinced of this: - the ratification may place France under the obligation of entering into a war which it might perhaps have been able to avoid. . . . . .

and also danger is all the greater of the government does not follow the advice I would like to give it on all modesty as a man who spent the beginning of his fear on Germany, who did not wish to see any Hitler leaders but had lengthy conversations with the handful of good Frenchmen who have lived and worked there for many years.

Their apprehention growes ever more acute in event of the propetually widening gulf between the two countries in view of a situation which has arisen on part merely out of a tragic misunderstanding, and they are aghast to preceive so many dark forces at work here who yesterday favored an Entente with Germany at any price, and who today want to blight every effort for an improvement on the relations between the two countries.

In the conscious acts of performing every duty as representative of a section pasionately devoted to peace, every duty as an old soldier and bead of a fimily. I say to the government: If you

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ratify this treaty, it is imperative above all that you speak to Germany.

One may regret Hitlerism, but it exists all the same. I believe that the scales of fate are still vacillateing there, that we think final has been decided by the German leaders in the short period, lasting perhaps a few months, pershaps a few weeks.

Do not allow this period to pass, do not permit the silence to grow more on tense! Speak, but not on suspicious abscurity, speak on conjunction with England, with our Allies, and especially on conjunctions with the Little Entente to which we remain boundlessly faithful; but make this last effort at least to exercise the possible catastrophe. At any rate, gentlemen - and I shall conclude with this - may the French people keep two things in mind: firstly, that its last chance of peace

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rests in its unity, its discipline. Its exposition to all forms of demagogy weakens its internal order; and then, that it must recognize its greatest danger of war: the moment the government of France create the impression on Europe that our people has fallen under the bidden protectorate of Moscow.

(quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" (History of our Friend in documents) 1935/36, 3rd volume, Pages 318/319)

The German script bears the following postscrip)

"Copy certified correct.

sgd. Frhr. v. Luedinghausen

. . . . . .

(Dr. Frhr. v. Luedinghausen
Lawyer and Notary)

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NEURATH No. 108

Defense Exhibit No. .....

Filed July 21 1946

Interview of the Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor, Adolf HITLER, with the correspondent of the "Paris Midi", Bertrand de Jouvenel.

(quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" 1935/36 3rd Volume Page 320).

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NEURATH No. 108.....

Defense Exhibit No. .....

Interview of the Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor, Adolf HITLER, with the "Paris Midi" correspondent, Bertrand de Jouvenel, on the 21.2.36.

Paris, 26 February. "Paris Midi" publishes today an interview of the well known French journalist, Bertrand de Jouvenel, with the Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor, which took place a few days ago, i.e. before the French Chamber ratified the Franco-Russian pact of mutual assistance[1]. The Fuehrer and Reich Cahncellor declared in this interview:

" I know what you think. You think: HITLER makes peace declarations to us but is he really sincere? But would it not be better if, instead of trying to solve psychological riddles, you were to apply the famous French logic for once? Would it not mean the ruin of both countries of they were to meet once again on the battlefield? Is it not logical that I should strive for the greatest benefit for my country? And is not this greatest benefit peace?"

In the course of further conversation with Bertrand de Jouvenel, the Fuehrer then came to speak about the alleged "riddle" which made him the leader of the German people. As a solution for this "riddle" he indicated, inter alia, the fact that he had simplified apparently extremely complicated problems which professional politicians were unable to settle, and quoted in this connection also the problem of the "class struggle". In precisely the same way as he demonstrated to the German people, by appealing to reason, that the class struggle was an absurditty, so he was now directing a similar appeal to reason in the international sphere.

"I wish"so declared the Fuehrer, "to prove to my people that the idea of hereditary hostility between France and Germany is an absurdity. The German people understood this. They followed me when I undertook a much more difficult act of reconciliation, when I intervened between Poland and Germany with a view to reconciliation".

After these words by the Fuehrer, Bertrand de Jouvenal came to speak of the repeated peaceful pronouncements of the Fuehrer and stated:

"We Frenchmen do indeed read with pleasure your peaceful declarations, but in spite of them we are uneasy about less encouraging things. Thus in your book "Mein Kampf" you said very bad things about France. This book is now considered throughout the whole of Germany as a sort of political Bible. It is sold without new editions which follow one after another being subjected to any revision in any respect concerning the part about France".

The Fuehrer replied:

"When I wrote this book I was in prison. It was at the time when French troops occupied the Ruhr. It was at the moment of greatest tension between our two countries. .....

1) This took place on the 27.2.1936.

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NEURATH No. 108

Defense Exhibit No. ....

Yes, we were enemies, and I stood by my country, as is right, against your country, in estably the same way as I stood by my country for four and a half years in the Frenches against yours! I would despire myself if at the time of a conflict, were not first and foremost a German.

You want me to revise my book, like an author who is publishing a new edition of his works. But I am no author. I am a politician. I corry out my revisions in my foreign policy, which aims at an understanding with France! If I succeed in reaching a Franco-German approachement, that will be revision which is worth while.

I enter my revisions in the great book of History!"

Keeping the further course of the conversation, Bertrand de Jouvenel asked about Germany's attitude towards the Franco-Russian pact of mutual assistance which was undoubted by an obstacle to Franco-German understanding

The Fuehrer replied:

"My personal efforts to bring about such an understanding will always continue. Meantime, this more that regreable pact would really create a new situation. Are you in France aware of what you are doing? You are allowing yourselves to be drawn into the diplomatic game of a power which desires nothing alse than to set the great European nations in a turmoil from which this power alone will benefit.

It is necessary not to lose sight of the fact that Soviet Russia is a political factor which has at its disposal an explosive revolutionary idea and gigantic armaments.

As a German it is my duty to answer count for such a situation. Bolshevism has no chance of winning through in our country, but there are other great nations which are less immune than we are to the Bolshevist bacillus".

The Fuehrer then came once more to speak of Franco-German relations and stated that he was speaking in the name of the whole German nation when he declared to France that if only she so wished, she could put an end do this alleged German danger for ever, since the German people had the fullest confidence in tis Fuehrer and this Fuehrer desired friendship with France.

(Quoted from the "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" 1935/36 Vol. 3, page 320).

(In the German text:)

Copy certified correct

sgd. Freiherr von LUEDINGHAUSEN

Dr. Freiherr von LUEDINGHAUSEN

Attorney-at-law and notary.

Neurath No ..109.....

Defense Exhibit No.....

Filed July 2, 1946

Reich Government memorandum, dated 7-8-36 to the signatory Powers of the Locarno Pact.

(quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten 1935/36. Vol. 3 page 332)

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Neurath No. 109.....

Defense Exhibit No. .....

Memorandum , dated the 7th March 1936, of the Reich Government

to the signatory powers of the Locarno Pact.

Immediately after the news of the Pact signed on May 2nd between France and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics became known, the German government drew the attention of the other signatory powers of the Rhine-Locarno Pact to the fact that the obligation which France has undertaken in the new Pact are not compatible with its obligations arising from the Rhine Pact. The German Government gave detailed legal and political justifications for its point of view at the time. And this was done, as far as the legal aspect was concerned, by the German memorandum dated 25th May 1935, and, as far as the political one was concerned by the repeated diplomatic discussions which followed this memorandum.

The participating Governments are also aware that neither in their written answers to the German memorandum nor in their arguments advanced through diplomatic channels or in public declarations were they able to shake the standpoint of the German government.

In fact, the entire discussions on this question which have taken place since May 1935, both diplomatically and publish, have only been able to confirm in all points the conception expressed by the German Government right from the beginning.

1. It is undeniable that the French-Soviet agreement is directed exclusively against Germany.

2. It is undeniable that France undertakes obligations in this pact, in the case of a conflict between Germany and the Soviet Union, which far exceed her obligations under the League of Nations covenant and which would force her into military action against Germany even if in doing so she can refer neither to a recommendation or even only to an existing decision by the Council of the League of Nations.

3. It is undeniable, that France therefore claims the right in such a case to decide according to her own judgement who is the accressor.

4. This shows that France has entered upon undertaking toward the Soviet Union which in practice amount to

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(Note. The messing page has, in error, been placed in the 1st book under page 7. This should follow page 292.)

which have been imposed upon her, in relation to Germany by the Rhine Pact.

This however the German Government must deny.

The Rhine Pact was intended to realise the aim of securing peace in Western Europe by Germany on the one hand and France and Belgium on the other renouncing for all time in their relations to each other, the employment of military force. If at the time of the conclusion of the pact definite exceptions to this renunciation of war measures was conceded over and above the right of self defence, the sole political reason for this was, as everyone was aware, in the fact that France had already precviously entered into certain treaty obligations towards Poland and Czechoslovakia, which she was unwilling to sacrifice to the idea of an absolute guarantee of peace in the West. Germany showed her good intentions by agreeing at that time to these restrictions being placed on the renunciation of war. Germany did not object to the treaties with Poland and Czechoslovakia which were laid on the table by France's representative at the Locarno conference but only on the natural presupposition that these treaties conformed ot the framework of the Rhine Pact and did not contain any stipulations regarding the handling of Article 16 of the League of Nations covenant, such as are provided for in the new Franco-Soviet agreements. The contents of these special agreements which came to the knowledge of the German Government at this time did in fact accord with this. The exceptions granted in the Rhine Pact are not indeed expressly made to apply to Poland and Czechoslovakia, but were formulated in an abstract manner. But the purport of all the negotiations in this connection was only to find a compromise between the German-French renunciation of war and the French desire for the maintenance of its already existing treaty obligations. If France now makes use of the abstract wording of the possibilities allowed by the Thine pact in order to make a new pact with a highly armed country against Germany and if it thus, moreover limits in so decisive a manner the import of the "renunciation of war" agreed upon with Germany, and if in doing so, as shown above, it does not even keep to the fixed formal and legal limits, France will thus have created an entirely new situation, and will have destroyed the political system of the Rhine Pact not only insofar as its meaning is concerned, but also in fact.

The last debates and resolutions of the French parliament have shown that France, in spite of German representations, is decided to put the Pact concluded with the Soviet Union into force; in fact diplomatic conversation has shown that France already considers herself bound by her signature of the Pact of May 2nd 1935. Faced with such a development of European politics, the German government cannot however remain inactive if it does not wish to neglect or surrender the interests of the German people which were loyally entrusted to it.

The German government has always emphasized during the negotiations of the last few years that it will keep and fulfil all the obligations arising out of the Rhine pact as long as the other contracting parties are prepared on their side to keep to this pact. This natural presupposition can now no longer be looked upon as having been complied with by France. France has answered the repeated friendly German offers, and peaceful assurances by concluding, in violation of the Rhine Pact, a military alliance with the Soviet Union which is exclusively directed against Germany.

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The Rhine Pact of Locarno has thus lost it's innermost purport and has practically ceased to exist. Germany therefore no longer feels that she is bound to observe this defunct pact either. The German Government is now competted to counter the new situation created by this treaty, a situation which has become more acute owing to the fact that the France-Soviet treaty is complemented by an exactly similarly drafted treaty of alliance between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. In the interest of the primitive rights of a people to secure it's borders and to maintain its possibilities of defense, the German government has therefore on the present day reestablished the full and unrestricted Sovereignty of the German Reich in the demilitarised zone of the Rhineland.

In order, however, to avoid any misinterpretation of its intentions and to establish beyond any doubt the prively final character of these measures, as well as it's ever consistent desire for real pacification of Europe between nations with equal rights and respect, the German government declares itself ready to conclude new agreements for setting up a system of safeguarding European Peace on the basis of the following proposals.

1.The German government is willing to enter into immediate: negotiations with France and Belgium concerning the creation of a mutual demilitarised zone, and is prepared to agree to such a proposal to any extent and effect whatsoever on the basis of complete equality.

2. For the purpose of securing the sanctity and inviolability of the Western frontiers the German government proposes to enter into a non-agression pact with France and Belgium, and is prepared to its duration as 25 years.

3. The German government wants to invite England and Italy to sign the agreement as guarantor powers.

4. Should the Royal Netherlands government desire it and the other partners of the agreement consider it proper, the German Government agrees to include the Netherlands in this System of treaties.

5. For the further strengthening of this security agreement, the German government is prepared to conclude an air pact with the Western Powers capable of being an automatic and effective preventive measure against the danger of sudden air attacks.

6. The German Government herewith repeats its offer to conclude non-aggression pacts similar to the one with Poland, with the countries bordering Germany in the East. As, in recent months, the Lithuaniain government has, to a certain extent, modified its attitude towards the Memel territory, the German government retracts the exception concerning Lithuania it once had to make, and declares itself prepared, (provided there is an effective building-up of the guaranteed autonomy of the Memel District) to sign such a pact of non-aggression with Lithuania also.

7. After thus having finally achieved equality of rights for Germany and after having again established complete sovereignty over the entire German Reich, the German government considers

the main reason for having left the League of Nations at the time when it did, as no longer existent. Germany is now prepared to re-enter the League of Nations. Germany expects that, in due course of time and by friendly negotiations, the question of colonial equality, as well as the question of the separation of the League of Nations covenant from its Versailles foundation, will be settled.

(quoted from: "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" 1935/36, Volume 3, Page 332.

The(German) copy is certified as correct by

(signed) Dr.Baron von LUEDINGHAUSEN

Lawyer and Notary.

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Neurath No. 112

Defense Exhibit No. .....

Filed July 2, 1946

Official declaration of the German Reich Government dated the 12.3.36 (quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten", 1935/36, Vol. 3, P. 373).

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NEURATH No. 112

Defense Exhibit No. .....

Extracts from

Official declaration of the German Reich Government on the 12.3.1936.

3. France has now concluded a further military alliance with Soviet Russia. The functioning of this alliance is, however, no longer dependent on an existing constatation by the League of Nations, but instead on decisions to be made on their own initiative. This new alliance, however, obtains its special character from the undeniable fact that the ideological system of the present regime in Russia demands a world revolution not only in theory but also in fact, i.e. that it proclaims a consciously imperialistic and offensive watchword.

Already before the conclusion of this alliance France had the following guarantees for her inviolability:

a) herself, i.e. the mother country and the colonies with almost 100 million inhabitants,

b) Great Britain,

c) Belgium,

d) Poland,

e) Czechoslovakia.

Finally, through the Treaty of Locarno, Italy also had been added as a guarantor power.

4. In addition to this guarantee of the inviolability of a nation such as had never previously existed in history, France thought that she was obliged to secure as well the support of the gigantic Soviet Russian state of more than 175 million people.

To this it must be stated that, on the part of Germany, not the least cause was ever given from which threat to France might have been deduced; that Germany had made no protest against the defensive safeguards which France had thought it necessary to carry out for her inviolability,

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because Germany had no aggressive intentions whatsoever, and that, because o this, she never raised any objections to these French safety measures.

.....

The following situation thus actually arises:

In order to protect her independence, which she says is endangered, France has

1. constructed along the German frontier the greatest network of fortifications of all time,
2. legally bound, as guarantors of her inviolability, Great Britain with her active Forces on land and at sea, Italy, Belgium, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Russia with more than 17 million soldiers on her own, and France herself.

These nations dispose of a peace time strength of more than 3 milli. men a war time strength of approximately 30 million men.

. . . . . .

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. . . . . .

She (Germany) therefore does not desire any thing as much as to enter into upright negotiations with France and the other European powers, regarding the realisation of this plan and because of this and in order to free the minds of the French nation from even the semblance of a threatening fait accompli or a menace, she has for the time being carried out the remilitarisation of her own territory in a manner which can in fact only be regarded as being a token one.

Further she is prepared - it is thought to be helpful - to declare for the period of the negotiations, on condition of an analogous attitude on the part of the French and Belgium governments, that she will not allow any change to take place in this.

Under no circumstances, however, would she renounce any sovereign rights, being convinced that by doing so the future appeasenant of Europe would once again be built up on such imposed renunciations and thereby moral discriminations, which would then contain the seeds of rankling shame on the one hand and thereby also of latent dissatisfaction on the other hand. But what the German Government is aiming at is not the conclusion of treaties which would once again remain outwardly and inwardly impossible to believe in because of being linked with moral burdens on an honesty loving and decent people, but instead the establishment of a real and actual appeasement of Europe for the next quarter of a century. An appeasement which would have the character of an absolute European legal system, built u

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on the voluntary decisions of European peoples and nations possessing equal rights. And only what is then signed under such conditions can, as a result of its being in agreement with the conception of honour of the nations, be adhered to honourably, and will be adhered to just as honourably where Germany is concerned.

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(page 301 of orig.)

Neurath No. 113

Defense Exhibit No .....

Filed July 2, 1946

Note of the German Ambassador in London to the British Foreign Secretary Eden of 12.3.1936.

(quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" (World History of our Times in Documents") 1935/36, Volume 3, Page 373.

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Neurath No. 113

Defense Exhibit No .....

Extract of a note of the German Ambassador in London to the British Foreign Secretary Eden of 12.3.1936.

In order to render it easier for the French Government to agree to the German proposals, the Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor is prepared to give the following preciser formulation to his intention of making the restoration of sovereignty in the Rhineland take a purely token form at first - as he announced at the very beginning :

The strength of the troops stationed in peacetime garrisons in the Rhineland will not be increased at present.

There is, until further notice, no intention to move these troops closer to the French or Belgian frontiers.

The above-designated extent of the military reoccupation of the Rhineland will apply for the duration of the negotiations now in progress. This, however, presupposes a similar attitude on the part of the French and Belgians.

(quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" (World History of our Times in Documents) 1935/36, Volume 3, Page 373).

The German text bears the following pastscript :

"I certify herewith that the above copy of the communication of the German Ambassador in London to the British Foreign Secretary Eden of 12.3.36 corresponds verbally with the text from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" (World History of our Times in Documents) 1935/36 before me.

.....
Dr. Frhr. v. Luedingshausen
Lawyer and Notary."

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NEURATH No 116

Defense Exhibit No.....

Filed July 9, 1946

Memorandum of the German Government dated 31-3-36 (handed to the British Government by the Envoy Extraordinary, von RIB ENTROP).

(quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten", 1935/36, Vol. 3, p. 429.)

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NEURATH No 116

Defense Exhibit No.....

Extract from the German memorandum dated 31-3-36. (handed to the British Government by the Envoy Extraordinary, von RIBBENTROP, on the 1-4-36.)

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.....

With this and in view, the German government now propose the following peace plan:

1. In order to give the forthcoming agreements for the safeguarding of European peace the nature of sacred treaties, the nations in question participate in them only as members with fully equal rights and respect. The sole obligation to sign these treaties can be only in the visible appropriations - acknowledged by all members - of these agreements for European peace, and thus for the social happiness and the economic prosperity of the nations.

2. In order to reduce the period of insecurity as much as possible in the interest of the economic life of the European nations, the German government proposes to limit the first period up to the signing of the non-aggression pacts and thus of the guaranteed safeguarding of European peace to four months.

3. Provided the Belgian and French governments adopt a similar attitude, the German government gives the assurance that it will not undertake any reinforcing of the troops in the Rhineland for this period.

4. The German government gives the assurance that it will not move the troops in the Rhineland nearer to the Belgian and French frontiers during this period.

5. In order to guarantee these bilateral assurances, the German government proposes the setting up of a commission, to be composed of representatives of the two guarantor powers, Great Britain and Italy, and one disinterested, neutral third power.

6. Germany, Belgium and France are entitled to appoint one representative each to this commission. Germany, Belgium and France have the right of reporting their observations to the guarantor commission if they believe during this period of 4 months that, owing to definite events they can point out a change in the military situation.

7. Germany, Belgium and France declare their willingness to allow the commission in such a case to have the necessary enquiries made by the British and Italian military attaches, and to report on them to the powers concerned.

8. Germany, Belgium and France give the assurance that they will fully respect the resulting objections.

9. Moreover the German government is prepared to agree to any military limitation on the German western frontier on the basis of full reciprocity with her two western neighbors.

10. Germany, Belgium and France and the two guarantor powers agree to enter into discussions either, immediately or at the latest after the conclusion of the French elections under the leadership of the British government, regarding the conclusion of a 25 year non-aggression or security pact between France and Belgium on the one hand and Germany on the other.

11. Germany agrees to this security pact being again signed by Great Britain and Italy as guarantor powers.

12. Should special obligations of military assistance result from these security agreements, Germany declares her willingness to accept such obligations for her part too.

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13. The German government herewith repeats the proposal for the conclusion of an air pact as a supplement and strengthening of these security agreements.

14. The German government repeats its willingness should the Netherlands so desire - to include this state also in the western European security agreement.

15. In order to give this work of security peace, voluntarily taking place between Germany on the one side and France on the other side, the nature of a conciliatory conclusion of centuries of dissension, Germany and France undertake to take steps to avoid everything in the education of the youth of both nations, as well as in public, publications, which might be liable as a denigration contempt or unseemly interference in the internal affairs of the other nation - to poison the attitude of the one nation towards the other. They agree to set up a mutual commission at the headquarters of League of Nations at Geneva, which shall be given the task of submitting incoming complaints to the two governments for their information and examination.

16. In pursuance of the intaction of giving this agreement the nature of a sacred treaty, Germany and France undertake to have the ratification made by a plebiscite of the two peoples themselves.

17. Germany declares her willingness to get in touch for her part with the states alone her South Eastern and North Eastern frontiers in order to invite them directly to conclude the non-aggression pacts, offered.

18. Germany declares her willingness to rejoin the League of Nations either immediately or after the conclusion of these treaties. At the same time the German government repeats its expectation that, during the course of a reasonable period and by means of friendly negotiations, the question of colonial equality of rights as well as the questions of separating the League of Nations covenant from its Versailles basis will be settled.

19. Germany proposes the setting up of an international court of arbitration, which shall be competent for the observance of this treaty and the decisions of which shall be binding on everyone.

Once such a great work for securing European peace has been concluded, the German government considers it to be urgently necessary that attempts be made to bring the boundless armaments race to a standstill by practical means. It would regard this not only as an easing of the financial and economic situation of the nations, but particularly as a psycholigical lessening of tension.

But the German government does not expect anything from the attempt at universal settlements which would, from the very beginning be doomed to failure and thus could only be proposed by those who are not interested in bringing about a practical result. It believes that, as against this, the negotiations and results in the sphere of the limitation of naval armaments could act unstructively and stimulatingly.

The German government therefore proposes the calling of conference at a later date, each with only one, clearly defined task.

She considers most important task for the time being to be to bring air warfare into the same moral and human atmosphere as the one which once granted through the Geneva convention that non-combattants and wounded should be spared. Just as the killing of defenseless wounded or prisoners or the use of

H0682 - 0031

dumdum bullets, or the conduct of U-boat warfare without warning has been settled or prohibited by international conventions, so a civilized humanity must succeed in preventing the possibility of a senseless degeneration in the sphere of the application of new weapons too, without contradicting the purpose of the conduct of war.

The German government therefore proposes the following practical tasks for these conferences to begin with:

1. Veto on the dropping of gas, poison and incendiary bombs.
2. Veto on the dropping of bombs of all types on open towns and villages that are out of the range of the medium - heavy artillery of the fighting fronts.
3. Veto on the shelling of towns and villages with long-range guns outside a combat zone of 20 km.
4. Doing away with and vetoing the construction of the heaviest types of tanks.
5. Doing away with and vetoing the heaviest types of artillery.

Where possibilities of further limitations of armaments result from such discussions and agreements, they are to be made use of.

The German government believes that, even if only a first step towards disarmament is made, this will be of extraordinary importance for the attitude of the nations towards one another, and thus also for the return of that trust which is a prerequisite for the development of trade and well-being.

.....

The German government confidently believes that it has now cleared the way towards this (N.B. European agreement) by submitting the above peace plan.

(quoted from "Weltgeschiche der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" 1935/36, Volume 3, page 429.)

(The German copy is certified as correct by)

(signed) Dr. Frhr. v. LUDINGHAUSEN

Lawyer and Notary.

H0682 - 0032

NEURATH No. 117

Defense Exhibit No.....

Filed July 2, 1946

Extract from

"Europaeische Politik 1933/38
im Spiegel der Prager Akten"
(European Politics 1933/38 as
reflected in the Prague files")
by Prof. Dr. F. BERBER
Essen Publishing Company, 1941
Page 61, No. 65

H0682 - 0033

NEURATH No. 117

Defense Exhibit No.....

"The German peace proposals form a suitable basis for negotiations."

The French peace proposals were not very favourably received by government circles here. Although it is gratefully recognized that the proposals remain on the basis of the League of Nations and of collective security, the French proposals are nevertheless regarded as academic, ambiguous and too ambitious. It is alleged that they mix up the most diverse thoughts and systems. It must remain the chief endeavour to ensure that the possibility of negotiation with Germany is not excluded, and the German plan, which possesses the great advantage of simplicity, forms a more suitable basis for such negotiations, This does not mean to imply the Hitler plan does not require great and considerable alterations; the French Government would, however, have done better if it had submitted practical proposals for amendments designed to bring the German proposals into a general system of collective security.

When the French Government and the public complain that HITLER's words do not tally with his actions, present French foreign policy deserves a similar reproach in a considerable measure. The French proposals proclaim loyalty to the League of Nations; the behaviour of the French Government on the Abyssinian question, however, places thus loyalty in a somewhat peculiar light. It appear clear that it is the fault of France to a considerable extent of the conflict between the League of Nations and staly is developing so unfavourably for the Geneva institution.

(Report of the Ambassador to the Hague, Krno, of 21.4.1936)

The German text bears the following postcript:

Copy certified correct.

.....
(Dr. Baron v. LUEDINGHAUSEN)
Lawyer and Notary

H0682 - 0034

NEURATH No. 118

Defense Exhibit No. .....

Filed July 21, 1946

Agreement

between the Reich and the Austrian Federal government, dated 11 July 1936, regarding the regulating of German Austrian relations.

(quoted from: "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" 1937/38 Vol. 5, pp. 169/70).

H0682 – 0035

Neurath No. 118

Defense Exhibit No. .....

Agreement between the Reich and the Austrian Federal Government of the 11th July 1936 concerning the regulating of German-Austrian relations.

In the conviction that they are rendering valuable help to the general European advance towards the maintenance of peace, and in the belief that they are thus best serving the manifold and mutual interests of both German states, the governments of the German Reich and of the Austrian Federation have decided to establish normal and friendly relations between themselves once more.

With this in view, it is announced:

1. In the sense of the statements of the Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor of the 21st May 1935, the German Reich Government recognizes the full sovereignty of the Federal state of Austria.

2. Each of the two Governments considers the domestic regime existing in the other country, including the question of Austrian National Socialism, as an internal concern of that country, which it will not influence either directly or indirectly.

3. The Government of the Austrian Federation will always conduct its policy, in general and towards the German Reich in particular, along such fundamental lines as correspond to the fact that Austria acknowledges itself to be a German state. The Rome protocols of 1934 and their supplements of 1935, as well as Austria's attitude towards Italy and Hungary as partners to those protocols are not affected hereby.

Bearing in mind that the easing of tension desired by both sides can come about only when certain premises are established for this by the Governments of both countries, the Government of the Reich as well as the Austrian Federal Government will create the necessary premises by means of a series of individual measures.

(Quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten 1937/38, Volume 5, p.169/70)

(In the German text:)

Copy certified correct:

Sgd. Baron v. LUEDINGHAUSEN

(Dr. Baron v. LUEDINGHAUSEN
Lawyer and Notary).

H0682 – 0036

(Page 315 of orig.)
Neurath Nr. 119
Defense Exhibit Nr. .....

Filed July 21 1946

From the
Statement of the Parliamentary Secretary of the Admirality, States peace, in the House of commons on the subject of the ratification of the London Naval Treaty on 20.7. 1936.
(from "Das Archiv" 1937 P. 449)

H0682 - 0037

(Page 316 of orig.)
Neurath Nr. 119
Defense Exhibit Nr. .....

From the
Ratification of the London Naval Treaty of 1936.

In the course of the debate on the London Naval Treaty on the House of commons, the Parliamentary Secretary of the Admirality, States peace, made the following statement about the German - English Naval Treaty

(sic above) on 20 July:

The wished to acknowledge officially the sympathetic attitud with which Germany entered upon these negotiations. There was in fact only one kind of limitation of armaments in the whole world at that moment, namely the quantitative german. English Naval Treaty of 1935 which had been adhered to by both sides and represented a model; if there had been any difficulties they had always been solved by mean of a friendly exchange of opinious. This German-English Treaty had been the axis round which the subsequent negotiation had revolved.

(quoted from "Das Archiv" of 1937, Page 449)

(The German Text bears the following postscript).
" I certify herewith that the above copy of an extract from the "Archiv" corresponds vebally corth the text of the "Archiv" before we:

(Dr. Frhr. v. LUEDINGHAUSEN)
Lawyer and Notary!!

H0682 - 0038

Filed July 2, 1946

(Page 317 of orig.)

Neurath No. 120

Extract from:

Decree of the People's Commissars of 11. 8. 1936 about the lowering of the conscription age.

(Quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten
world history of our times in documents 1937/38. 5th Vol, page 46-47.)

H0682 - 0039

Neurath No. 120.....

Extract from the decree of the People's Commissars of 11.8. 1936. about the lowering of the conscription age.

In view of the improved physical standards of Russian youth, which is due to the increased well being of the population and to the wide extensions of sport and physical training in the USSR, and as the calli up of youth at an earlier age will make it possible for them to carry out their work in their chosen profession or their studies without interruption, the Central Executive Committee and the Counsel of Peoples Commissars decrees.

1. that the supplement to article 10 of the law regarding compulsory military service of 13. 8. 1930 (laws of the USSR. 1930. No. 40 . Article 424) Shall lay down the age for conscription of the Russian citizens for active service in the Red Workers' and Peasants' Army as 19 (instead of 21) years up to the January of the year of constricy

2. That it shall be the responsibility of the People's Commissar for defense to carry out the transition to the conscription age of 19 years within a period of 4 years from 1936 to 1939, inc. by an annual call up of 1½ classes: i.e. in 1936 the complete class of 1914 and half of the 1915 class; in 1937 the remaining half of 1915 and the 1916 class; in 1938 the complete 1917 class and half of 1918; in 1939 the remaining half of 1918 and the complete 1919 class. In 1940 onwards the normal conscription of one single class will be reverted to.

(Quoted from "Weltgeschichte des gegenwdrt on Dokumenten" (Documentary world History of our time") 1937/38. 5th volume, page 46/47)

The German text bears the following Postscript:

Copy certified correct

sgd. Frhr. Luedinghausen
(Dr. Frhr v. Luedinghausen
Lawyer and Notary)

H0682 - 0040

NEURATH No. 122

Defense Exhibit No.....

Filed July 2, 1946

Communiqué of 8.6.1937 about the visit of Reich Foreign Secretary von NEURATH to Belgrade.

Quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten. (World History of our times in documents)
Volume 5, Page 315.

H0682 - 0041

NEURATH No. 122

Defense Exhibit No.....

Communiqué of 8.6. 1937 about the visit of the Reich Foreign Secretary von NEURATH to Belgrade.

. . . . . .

The visit of the Reich Foreign Secretary to the Yugoslav capital thus confirmed the conviction on both sides that the policy of both countries served the same aims and represented a considerable constitution to the pocification of Europe.

(Quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" Volume 5, Page 315)

The German Text bears the following postcript:

Copy certified correct.

Baron v. LUEDINGHAUSEN
.....

(Dr. Baron v. LUEDINGHAUSEN)
Lawyer and Notary

H0682 - 0042

NEURATH No 123

Defense Exhibit No.....

Filed July 21, 1946

Communique of the 10-6-37 re the visit of the Reich Foreign Minister von NEURATH to SOFIA.

(quoted from: "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten", Vol.5, p.316).

H0682 - 0043

Extract from the Communique of the 10-6-37 re the visit of the Reich Foreign Minister, von NEURATH, to Sofia.

The German Foreign Minister's visit to SOFIA not only gave lively expression to the friendly relations between Germany and Bulgaria but also forms, beyond this, a renewed valuable contribution towards the advancement of appeasement amongst nations and towards general peace.

(Quoted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" Vol.5, p. 316).

(German) copy certified correct:

Sgd. Baron v. LUDINGHAUSEN

(Dr. Baron v. LUDINGHAUSEN)

Attorney-at-law and Notary.

H0682-0044

Filed July 21, 1946

Communique of 14.6.37 about the copy of Reich Foreign Minister von Neurath to Budapest.

(quanted from "Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" World History upon times in documents, Volume 5, Page 317).

H0682 – 0045

Communique of 14.6.1937 about the visit of ReichForeign Minister von Neurath to Budapest.

.....No.124.....

During these disenstions of was noted with special satis faction that complete agreement existed between the how Governments on the point that their countries would declaire all attempts directed at the formation of a bloc and would continue to leive the work of peace on the future too in the way they had pursued to date: namely by working to words a compromise between the interests conceiwed and towards a final appeasement instead of erecting dividing walls between the countries.

The conferences further mere offered an opportunity to as certain that the attitudes of the two Governments were the complete agreement also on the other questions disensiid and that both Governments were determined to continue to develop unchanged friendly relations existing between, Germany and Hungary towards the attainment of their peaceful aims.

(quated from #Weltgeschichte der Gegenwart in Dokumenten" Volume 5,Page 317)

(An German Text bears the following postscript copy certified correct.

Frhr. v. Luedinghausen

(Dr.Frhr. v. Luedinghausen)
Lawyer and Notary.

H0682 - 0046

Filed July 2, 1946

From a

Lettre by the American Under-Sectretary of State Welles on the 7.7.37 re: "The Versailles Treaty and Europe ".

(quotedfrom "Das Archiv",1937 p. 452)

H0682 - 0047

.....

But the main reason for failiere was the insertion of the tragic Versailles treaby into the league of Nations covenant, by which act the league of Nations Eouverbed itself during the period when it was taking shape, into a cool for maintaining for a indefinite period of the injustices and unberable moral and material burdens placed by the victors on the vanquished ,

H0682 - 0048

(p.328
of orig.)
Neurath No.126.

Filed July 2, 1946

Baron von Neurath & Rudolf Hess speak in the Adolf Hitler Arena on the 29.8.37.

(from "Das Archiv", Vol.40-42, p.650/51)

H0682 – 0049

. . . . . .

Baron von Neurath explained the basic principles of German foreign policy and the signigicance of Germans living abroad to the Reich:

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

But equally obtions is the fact

H0682-0050

that the carrying at of all the tashs faid upon us by the existence of Germans abroad, depends on one basic premise, the same premise which is in general of decisive significance for the whole of foreign policy: Germany, the German State, the German National community, must stand as one a solid, unshakeable unit, inspired by the same strong will, if we wish to assert ourselves and get one way as a nation and State in the power game of world politics. And only on this bisis, too, can the Germans abroad fulfil their mission, firmly unite within themselves and be certain of their ties with the Fatherland."

The unity of the peoples will and the State's will achieved with unprecedented elan by National Socialism has made possible a foreign policy which has broken the bonds of the Versailles Treaty, regained Military sovereignty and re-established Sovereignty throughout the whole of the state. "We have, in general, become once again masters in our own house and have provided ourselves with the means of power so as to be able to remain so for even in the future. By our actions in foreign politics we have not taken anything away from anybody to whom it belonged; we have not violated any foreign country, nor threatened any foreign people."The world should have learned from Adolf Hitler's words and actions that his aims are not aggressive. The unyielding lack of understanding of our unrenonnceable claim to equality of rights has contibuted to our more rapid awakening, and wherever people want to treat us unjustly or even attack us we do not display any longer the feeble patience of an earlier post-war period. But this attitude of the new Germany is in reality the strongest bulwark for securing peace, and it will prove to be ever more so in the restlessly moving world arvined us. Precisely because we have clearly recognised the danger of certain destmetive tendencies which are trying to assert themselves in Europe, we are looking not for what divides but for what unites

H0682-0051

states and peoples. We are not thinking of political isolation. We are striving for a political collaboration of the governments, a collaboration which - if it is to be successful - must indeed not be based on theoretical ideas of collectivity but on living realities, and must turn towards the concrete tasks of our time. It is with satisfaction that we can state that we are moving hand in hand with Italy, with whom we are on friendly terms, in the pursuance of such a realistic policy of peace. This justifies the hope that we shall reach a friendly understanding regarding these important and topical questions of foreign policy with the other governments also."

. . . . . .

H0682-0052

Neurath No. 127

Filed July 2, 1946

From Guests of honor at the Party Rally, 1937.

(Quoted from "Das Archiv"

for 1937, page 658).

Neurath No. 127.

From

"Guests of honor at the Party Rally 1937"

From the diplomatic corps the Ambassadors of France, Turkey, Poland, Japan Italy, Chile, China, Brazil, the Argentine, Great Britain and Spain attended at the invitation of the Fuehrer: Furthermore the envoys of 16 European and 14 non European countries and the charges d' affaires of 7 countries.

(Quoted from "Das Archiv" of 1937, page 658)

I certify herewith that the above copy of an extract from the "Archiv" 1937 corresponds verbally with the text of the "Archiv" before me.

(Dr. Frhr. V. Luedinghausen)
Lawyer and Notary

H0682-0053

Filed July 2, 1946

Page 338 of orig.

NEURATH Nr. 128

Defense Exhibit No.....

Baron von NEURATH on International Law and the League of Nations.

30-10-37.

(quoted from "Das Archiv" 1937 Volumes 43 to 45, page 920).

H0682-0054

H0682-0055

NEURATH No 128

Defense Exhibit No.....

Baron von NEURATH on International Law and the League of Nations

30-10-1937.

..... Using the details of the no longer topical plan for a so-called Eastern Treaty as in illustration, Baron von NEURATH explained the difficulties and internal contradiction of the idea of such regional pacts.

"I am convinced that the same or similar objects would arise in other cases too where one wished to introduce so schematic a structure as an unconditional pact of mutual assistance for a more or less

H0682-0056

large group of states.

.....

In view of all the experiences in and outside the League of Nations, one can regard it as a definite law that an effective organisational combination of nations is possible only in as far as it serves exclusively the attainment of certain aims, in the attainment of which these countries are all equally interested. Having recognized this fundamental fact, the Reich Government has always been in favor of treating each concrete international problem only in accordance with the methods which are suited to it, of not complicating it unnecessarily by combining it with other problems, and, where it is a case of problems arising between only two powers, of choosing the path of direct negotiation between these two powers. We can point out that this political method has proved its worth fully, not only in the German but also in the general interest.

(One German text bears the following postscript.)

"Copy certified correct:

sgd. Frhr. v. LUDINGHAUSEN

Lawyer and Notary."

H0682-0057

NEURATH Nr. 129
Defense Exhibit No. .....

Filed July 2, 1946

Extract from

Sir Nevile HENDERSON, Failure of a Mission

Berlin 1937 - 1939,

P. 122/23 .

H0682-0058

NEURATH No. 129

Defense Exhibit No. .....

Sir Neville HENDERSON, Failure of a Mission, P. 122/23.

Nevertheless I still do not believe, any more than I did at the time that the Anschluss of Austria in the form in which it finally took place and on the date on which it occurred was definitely premeditated. HITLER would have preferred to incorporate his native Austria into Germany by what he regarded as peaceful means. However clear in his mind he may have been as to his ultimate ends, the decision as to the means for achieving them always depended upon the development of events, and was never taken till the last moment. .....

..... Herr von RIBBENTROP was at the time in London, whither he had proceeded to present his letters of recall - another fairly evident proof of the unpremeditated moment for the "rape". As Minister for Foreign Affairs he would never have absented himself from Berlin at that moment if he could have anticipated it, and he, in fact, endeavoured to return immediately, but was told to remain where he was.

I hereby certify that this is a true and exact copy of the original text.

s. Dr. Freiherr von LUEDINGHAUSEN

.....

Dr. Freiherr von LUEDINGHAUSEN

Attorney-at-law and notary.

H0682-0059

Extract from the news paper
"Neues Wiener Tageblatt" dated 3 April 1938.
Chancellor of State Dr. Renner: "I shall vote "Yes."

H0682-0060

Extract from the

"Neues Wiener Tageblatt"
No 92 Vienna, Sunday 3rd April 1938

Chancellor of State Dr. Renner: " I shall vote "Yes".

One of our correspondents had the opportunity yesterday of questioning the former Chancellor of State, Dr. Karl Renner, about the imminent plebiscite, The latter answered the questions asked him as follows:

Q.: "Are you, Mr. Chancellor of State, willing to state your attitude tiwards the plebiscite?"

A.: As the first Chancellor of German/Austria (Deutschoesterreich), I submitted the motion to the National Assembly on the 12th Nov. 1918 and had it passed nearly unanimously: "German-Austria is a part of the German Republic. "As president of the peace delegation at Lt. Germain I struggled for many months to achieve the "Anschluss" - the distress in the country and the occupation of the frontiers by the enemy forced the National Assembly and also myself to submit to the humiliation of the peace treaty and the resulting ban on an Anschluss. In spite of that, I have since 1919 continued the struggle for the Anschluss in immumerable artiales and countless meetings in Austria and in the Reich. Though the Anschluss has not been achieved by the methods,which I support, it has nevertheless now been achieved, it is a historical fact, and I regard this as a true satisfaction for the humiliation of 1918 and 1919, for Lt. Germain and Versailles. I would have to disown my whole part as a theoretical protagonist of the right of self-determination of the nations and as a German-Austrian statesman, it I did not welcome with a glad heart the great historical deed of the reunion of the German nation".

Q.: "Mr. Chancellor, were you not a friend of a Danube confederacy?"

A.: "To that I have to say: Already in the first session of the provisional national Assembly we were placed before the alternative: We are willing to negotiate with the liberated Danube peoples about a link; but if the latter do not want such a link or want it only under conditions which are against our honour, we wish to return to the Reich. Our neighbours gave the direct answer to this alternative by the forable occupation of German soil

H0682-0061

and by undermining our economic standing. On the 12th November 1918 Austria gave the suitable answer by announcing the "Anschluss". Once again this alternative was put forward, less by Austria than by the Great Powers. The idea of the so-called "Danube area policy" was discussed many times after the conclusion of the peace. It was intended to open up a new economic furture and a way out of the suffocating narrowness of the customs settlement and thus make the national renunciation more tolerable by economic advantages. Those who are hard pressed do not reject any possible may out of their economi degeneration and, in view of its powerlessness in the field of foreign polities, the country certainly followed such proposals with interest. But for nearly 20 years this idea was only played with and not a single positive step was taken to put it into effect indeed, it was finally made absurd by ridiculous, legitimist intrigues, so that even the warmest supporter of the Danube area policy had to turn away from this second alternative.

Now this 20 year long wandering about of the Austrian people is ended, united it returns to its starting point, to its solemn declaration of its will on the 12th November. The sad interlude of half a contury, 1866-1918, is thus submerged in our 1000 year old common history".

Q.: "Then how will you and the people who think like you vote?"

A.: "I have no authority to speak for the latter, but I can declare: As a Social Democrat and therefore as a champion of the right of self-determination of nations, as the first chancellor of the Republic of German-Austria and as the former of her peace delegation at St. Germain, I will vote: "Yes".

25 June 1946

CERTIFICATE

I, Major L. A. HILL, British Army, hereby certify that I am fully acquainted with the English and German languages and that the above is a full and accurate translation of the passages marked in red in the Neurath Document book No. IV.

L. A. HILL
Major